## PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION DIRECTIVE

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER		DATE	<b>December 05, 2018</b>
MOTOR CARRIER MATTER		DOCKET NO.	2018-365-WS
UTILITIES MATTER	<b>✓</b>	ORDER NO.	2018-791

## THIS DIRECTIVE SHALL SERVE AS THE COMMISSION'S ORDER ON THIS ISSUE.

## **SUBJECT:**

<u>DOCKET NO. 2018-365-WS</u> - <u>Request for Name Change of Carolina Water Service,</u>
<u>Incorporated to Blue Granite Water Company</u> - Staff Presents for Commission Consideration Carolina Water Service, Incorporated's Request for Name Change to Blue Granite Water Company, without Notice.

## **COMMISSION ACTION:**

Hold in abeyance the request of Carolina Water Service, Inc. for approval to change the legal corporation name from Carolina Water Service, Inc. to Blue Granite Water Company until notice has been provided and filed with the Commission. Further, the Office of Regulatory Staff recommends, and I so move, that the Commission require the following information be included in the Company's notice to customers:

- 1. A concise statement identifying the reason for name change.
- 2. Effective date of any changes to contact information including, but not limited to, new office address, updated web address, email address, contact number, and emergency contact information.
- 3. Effective date and detail of any changes to how Company employees and/or Contractors will be identified (i.e. uniform and truck markings).
- 4. Effective date of changes to bill forms and an overview of the changes to the bill form including, but not limited to, the name and logo presented on the bill.
- 5. Identify any changes to payment methods such as new mailing address and the date payments will need to be remitted under the new name.

While the Company filed a letter on December  $4^{th}$  objecting to the information ORS proposed to be included in the Notice to customers, I find the arguments against requiring such information unpersuasive. The three Commission Orders – cited by the Company for the proposition that requiring the inclusion of such information is not consistent with prior Commission actions on corporate name changes – are inapposite. One of the cited name changes was pursuant to contract with a utility's previous owner, one was a mere change in d/b/a/s, and one resulted from a merger. Further, none of those Orders involved criteria to be included in a notice of a name change.

Lastly, the Company indicated that other legal and regulatory filings as required by the Department of Health and Environmental Control have not been completed. The Company is required to file with the Commission all DHEC permits authorizing operations under the new name prior to further Commission consideration of the request. Once these are received and the notice period has run, the Commission will give further consideration to the request.

PRESIDING: Randall SESSION: Regular TIME: 2:00 p.m. MOTION YES NO OTHER **✓ ✓** ELAM **✓ ERVIN ✓** HAMILTON **✓** HOWARD **✓** RANDALL **✓** WHITFIELD **✓** WILLIAMS RECORDED BY: J. Schmieding (SEAL)

